

# Sunday Bulletin

## Blessed Sacrament & Roncalli Newman

### Roman Catholic Churches of La Crosse, WI

#### Third Sunday of Advent | December 17, 2023

#### MASS TIMES

##### SATURDAY

4:30PM Blessed Sacrament (BSP)

##### SUNDAY

9AM Blessed Sacrament (BSP)

11AM Roncalli Newman (RNC)

8:30PM Roncalli Newman (RNC)

##### DAILY MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday - 8:00AM (BSP)

Tues - 5:15PM (RNC)

Thurs - 7pm (RNC)

Wed/Fri - Noon (RNC)

#### CONFESSIONS

3:30 - 4:15PM Saturdays or by appt.

#### OUR PARISH IS SERVED BY:

##### PASTOR

Fr. Billy Dodge

billyjdodge@gmail.com

608-860-6001 ext. 8

##### ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Sam McCarty

smccarty@diocclergy.org

608-860-6001 ext. 9

##### DEACONS

Dcn David Allen

Dcn Dave Belland

##### DIR. OF MUSIC & LITURGY

Mary Blaha-DeBoer

##### DIR. OF FAMILY FAITH FORM

Kristin Johnson

kjohnson@newmanlc.org

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Samuel Obert

##### COLLEGE CAMPUS MINISTER

Maddie Stoffel

campusmin@newmanlc.org

##### FOCUS TEAM DIR.

John Collins

##### COMMUNICATION & DEVELOPMENT

Adele Gligorevic

#### CONTACT US

##### BSP OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs: 8:45AM - Noon & 1-3PM

Fri: 8:45AM - Noon

office@bsplacrosse.org

608-782-2953 ext. 2

##### RNC OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs: 9AM - 12PM, 1PM - 4PM

Fri: 9AM - 12PM

office@newmanlc.org

608-860-6001 ext. 1

#### FROM THE DESK OF FR. BILLY DODGE

The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" in latin means "rejoice." Can someone really be told to rejoice? The liturgy reminds us that joy is meant to be part of the life of a Christian. Deep joy is not simply equated with an external jovial attitude. Joy comes from a sense of knowing I am loved. We find so much joy in being loved by family and friends. How much more joy is there in being loved by the source of love - the perfect relationship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! If we are lacking joy it is a good practice to stop and meditate upon this, to allow myself to rest in God's presence, and allow God to simply love me.

In addition to prayer, the Sacrament of Confession and Reconciliation is an excellent place to experience God's personal love and care for me. I want to remind everyone that Monday, December 18, Cathedral will host the Confess-a-thon from 9:00am - 6:00pm.

Finally, I want to thank the parishioners for supporting the Diocesan Annual Appeal. The DAA not only helps important endeavors in our Diocese, but it also helps our parishes. So I ask that you consider what your total parish contribution will be, then take a percentage of that and give it to the parish through the Diocesan Annual Appeal. 100% of every dollar above our target goal comes back to the parish.



#### AROUND THE PARISHES

## Christmas Mass Times

**Dec. 24 - 4:00 PM at BSP**

**Dec. 24 - 6:30 PM at RNP**

**Dec. 24 - 8:30 PM at RNP**

**Dec. 25 - 9:00 AM at BSP**

#### Volunteers Needed for Christmas Decoration Setup!

As we joyfully anticipate the birth of Jesus, the Environment Committee leads at Blessed Sacrament and Roncalli Newman Center are excited to transform our beloved spaces into warm and welcoming environments for all. To achieve this, MANY HANDS will be needed for tasks from setting-up trees to tying & attaching bows. We are SEEKING VOLUNTEERS to team-up with us at the following times: **Blessed Sacrament:** Friday, **December 22** at 9AM. Please meet in the sanctuary.

**Roncalli Newman Center:** Sunday, **December 17** after the 11 AM service. Please meet in the basement hall after Mass.

## AROUND OUR PARISHES & COMMUNITY

### Newman Giving Tree

Our annual giving tree is up and ready for takers. The 3 local agencies that Social Justice has chosen to help this season are The Exchange, New Horizons, and Jail Ministry. They each have a website if you would like to check out the good work that they do in our community. Each tag on the Giving Tree has a list of items needed at one of the agencies. They request only NEW items. Please shop for the item(s) and return back under the tree at RNC by **Monday, December 18th**. We plan to deliver items before Christmas to each agency. Thank you. This is a nice way to remember those in need during the holidays.

### Looking for Confession before Christmas?

St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral will be offering All Day Confessions on Monday, December 18th from 9am - 6pm.

### Family Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation meets this Wednesday December 20th from 5:30pm-6:45pm at Mary Mother of the Church for a special Advent celebration. Contact Kristin with any questions [kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org) 608-788-5483 Ext. 4

### Family Faith Formation Christmas Break

Family Faith Formation will NOT meet December 27th. Continue working on our At Home Lessons and we will see you January 3rd!

### Couches for Campus Ministry

Hello from Campus Ministry! We are in need of a few good/great condition couches or loveseats for a project. If you or anyone you know has some furniture to get rid of, please email [campusmin@newmanlc.org](mailto:campusmin@newmanlc.org). Thank you!

### Women's Club Holy Hour | January 6

Women's Club will begin our New Year with a Holy hour for all ladies of the parish on Saturday January 6 at 10 am. A short business meeting will follow after the Holy hour, in the parish center . Please make your new 2024 calendar for Saturday, January 6.

### Welcome New BSP Parishioners!

A warm welcome to new Blessed Sacrament members Adam & Liz Dickey and also Jackson & Jessica Burns and son James.

### Our Sympathies

Condolences to the family of Michael Drake who passed away earlier this month. Michael was a long time parishioner of Blessed Sacrament and taught at Aquinas for 39 years.

Our sympathies to BSP parishioner Mary Jo Werner who recently lost her her father, Cyril Murphy.

### Our religious women and men offer gratitude.

A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org).

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 23/24

### Sat, Dec 23, 4:30 PM - Fourth Sunday of Advent (BSP)

Caryl Doberstein	Reader (1)
Paulette Drozdowicz	Reader (2)
Mary E Saphner	Reader (3)
Kent Stein & Mary BD	Cantor & Accompanist
Maria J. & Michael J.	Servers
Mark & Mary Schuttenhelm	Hospitality Ministers
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Peter Drozdowicz & Dave Schreier	EMHCs

**Rosary Leaders at Blessed Sacrament**  
12/23 4:30pm - Scott and Caryl Doberstein  
12/24 9am - Joe and Barb Clements

### Sun, Dec 24, 9:00 AM - Fourth Sunday of Advent (BSP)

Mark Steingraeber	Reader (1)
Kristin Sullivan	Reader (2)
Chris Dresen & Mary BD	Cantor & Accompanist
Dominic S & Isaac S	Servers
Michele Cook & John Gallagher	Hospitality Ministers
Scott Smerud & Tad Strittmater	Hospitality Ministers
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC

**\*Please see MSP for the full Liturgical Ministers Schedule for Christmas. Thank you!**

## AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

### Social Justice Alternative Gift Giving:

During this giving season, spend time as a family and go on line to <http://www.homeajpm.org/home> and learn more about Casa Hogar, our La Crosse Diocese's mission. Then discuss having every family member make a donation to help support Newman's Casa Hogar family. Newman pledges a minimum of \$1,000 annually to help provide a family setting for 8 children at Casa Hogar. Our "Rosario" family is 2 houseparents and their own children plus 8 orphaned/at risk girls living as a family unit at Casa Hogar. Some of the girls are not orphans but without our Casa Hogar family, they would not have food and medical care or education and would be on their own at a very early age. Please call the Roncalli Newman Parish Office if you'd like to make a donation to the Casa Hogar Family. They are so thankful for your support.

## FROM THE DESK OF FATHER SAM

Hello Everyone! I just wanted to put a few events on your radar and maybe encourage you to sign up for them if you're inclined.

**Behold Young Adult Retreat - Jan 27.** This is a retreat focused on the Eucharist and God's presence with us for ages 18-35. It will be hosted here at Blessed Sacrament and we have some really good speakers coming. Posters and sign up will be up soon.

**Healing the Whole Person Weekend - April 11-13.** Another retreat, this one focused on healing; this is a fantastic team and a great opportunity to be healed which is a need for all of us. This event is hosted in Waukesha - sign up starts January 8 and there is more information at [jpiihealingcenter.org](http://jpiihealingcenter.org). There's an option to do a livestream also; if there is interest we could host this somewhere here in La Crosse. (A side note, the retreat I'm doing in January is a priest retreat hosted by this same group and I'm very excited.)

**Eucharistic Congress - July 17-21.** Lots of great speakers and a chance to be part of a large movement in the Church right now. I think especially members of Blessed Sacrament should consider (for hopefully obvious reasons) making the trip to Indianapolis. More details to come.

Feel free to reach out for more information, I really think these are excellent options for good formation and growth. Peace, Fr. Sam

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

4:30pm BSP +Vernadine Doll

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 - 3RD ADVENT

9am BSP +Don Dolan

11am RNC JoAnne & Dan Pedretti - 56th Anniversary

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

8am BSP +Stephen and Marian Pavela

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

8am BSP For the Intention of Barb Clements

5:15pm RNC +John Boland

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

8am BSP +Dr George Ellenz

Noon RNC +Fr Camillus Gott

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

8am BSP Wedding Anniversary of  
Patrick & Mary Campbell

7pm RNC +John Boland

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

8am BSP +Dick Schubert

Noon RNC Mental Health Healing

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

4:30pm BSP +Richard Coaty

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - 4TH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE

9am BSP Living and Deceased  
Members of the Burg Family

11am RNC +Don Bahr

4pm BSP For the intention of Phil Murray

6:30 RNC Parish Family

8:30 RNC Parish Family

## MUSIC & LITURGY

Christmas is coming and we are busy preparing the music for the three Christmas Eve Masses and our Christmas morning Mass. The Mass schedule is as follows:

**-Dec. 24 - 4:00 PM at BSP** (organ, piano, and choir) Choir will practice on Saturday, Dec. 23rd, 10:00 AM at BSP

**-Dec. 24 - 6:30 PM at RNP** (music and liturgy led mostly by children and parents) - Practice date yet to be determined

**-Dec. 24 - 8:30 PM at RNP** (choir with congregational and choral pieces) Choir practices Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00 PM at RNP

**-Dec. 25 - 9:00 AM at BSP** (choir with organ, piano, and brass) Choir will practice on Wednesdays, 5:30-7PM @ RNP

If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument for one of these Masses, please contact Mary Blaha-DeBoer, [marybdmusic@gmail.com](mailto:marybdmusic@gmail.com) or text/call 608-780-5780,

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### MONDAY DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

9am BSP +Terri Levi

# AROUND THE COMMUNITY

## Eucharistic Prayer

**A Minute with Jesus during the National Eucharistic Revival. Jesus wants to stay with us always.**

Jesus loves each one of us so much that He gives Himself to us in Holy Communion at Mass. We receive Jesus Himself. When the priest prays the words of Jesus over the bread and wine at Mass, they are no longer bread and wine but the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus gives Himself to us because He wants to stay with each one of us always.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: *Jesus, thank You for always wanting to stay with us.* This week, read from Scripture about the birth of the Christ Child in Luke 2:1-7



Encounter Jesus  
in the Eucharist.  
He waits for you!

## The "O Antiphons" of Advent

For the final days of Advent, December 17 to the 24, there are beautiful "O" Antiphons that are prayed each day before the Gospel. These short "O" Antiphons are traditional titles of Christ: "O Wisdom," "O sacred Lord," "O Root of Jesse's Stem," "O Key of David," "O Radiant Dawn," "O King of all the nations," and "O Emmanuel" which means "God with us." These traditional titles for the Savior connect the coming of Jesus Christ with the prophetic writings of the Old Testament. (See back table or check the online bulletin)

## Stewardship of Treasure 12/10

BSP \$19,328 | RNC \$6,670

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## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### **Substitute Teachers Needed**

Aquinas Catholic Schools are seeking candidates for Substitute Teaching positions at all schools. If you are interested in applying, please submit a resume and cover letter to J.T. Gilbert (Dean of Students) at [jt.gilbert@aquinasschools.org](mailto:jt.gilbert@aquinasschools.org).

### **In need of yarn, fabric, and needlework supplies**

Coulee Region Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is seeking donations of yarn, fabric, and needlework supplies for its Handcraft Program. RSVP volunteers make thousands of items for donation to local hospitals and other social service organizations. We make hats, mittens, scarves, quilts, afghans, wheelchair/walker bags, and countless other items.

RSVP donates about 5,000 handcrafted items yearly, so we always need more yarn and fabric. All needlework supplies are accepted, and what we can't use for making items for donation will be saved for a needlecraft sale in the spring to support the Handcraft Program.

If you have any questions or want to drop off a donation, call us at 608-785-0500. Coulee Region RSVP is located at 2920 East Ave. South, La Crosse, and we are on the web at [www.rsvplax.org](http://www.rsvplax.org).



# Advent

## Praying the “O” Antiphons

For the final days of Advent from December 17 to the 24, the Church provides us with the beautiful “O” Antiphons that are prayed before the Gospel (except Sundays). These “O” Antiphons are traditional titles for the Savior that connect the coming of Jesus Christ with the prophetic writings of the Old Testament.

The “O” Antiphons are provided below, followed by a verse of the Advent hymn “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” from which they derive.

December 17

**O Wisdom** of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge.

O come, O Wisdom from on high Who orders all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain:*

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel! Shall come to you O Israel.

December 18

**O Leader of the House of Israel**, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai, come to rescue us with Your mighty power!

O come, O come, great Lord of might, Who to the tribes on Sinai’s height. In ancient times once gave the law, In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain:*

December 19

**O Root of Jesse’s stem**, sign of God’s love for all His people: come to save us without delay!

O come, O Root of Jesse’s stem; From every foe deliver them. That trust the mighty pow’r to save, And give them victory o’er the grave. *Refrain:*

December 20

**O Key of David**, opening the gates of God’s eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

O come, O Key of David, come. And open wide our heav’nly home; Make safe the way that sets us free, And close the path to misery. *Refrain:*

December 21

**O Emmanuel**, our King and Giver of Law, the hope of all nations and their Savior: come and save us, O Lord our God!

O come, O come Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel. That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain:*

December 22

**O King of all nations** and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom You formed from the dust!

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind Bid thou our sad divisions cease And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain:*

December 23

**O King of the nations** and their Desire, the Cornerstone Who binds two into one: come and save mankind, whom You fashioned from clay.

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind Bid thou our sad divisions cease And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain:*

December 24

**O Rising Dawn**, splendor of eternal light and Sun of Justice: come and illuminate those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer, Our spirits by Thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death’s dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain:*

In this time before Christmas, let us reflect on these “O” Antiphons, which will help us to recognize our need for a Savior.

By Ann Lankford  
Director for Catechesis & Evangel.